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REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Speed versus displacement distance

The Examiner asserts that "action amount" is speed related in paragraphs 0010 and 0047 and asserts that that "action amount" is impliedly displacement related in paragraph 0048. Note that the preferred measurement interval is three seconds, for example. As such, ignoring acceleration, the two (speed and displacement) are linearly related. If the speed is large, so is the displacement. If the speed is too small, so is the displacement.

Those skilled in the art would probably measure displacement during a measurement interval directly as opposed to trying to measure speed directly, but either measurement will do.

The Applicant has proposed some minor amendments to paragraphs 0047 and 0048. These amendments just reflect the fact that if acceleration is not an issue, then Distance = Velocity x Time. By measuring the amount of displacement (D) during a three second (T) measurement interval, you can determine the speed (S).

Claim rejections

The Examiner rejected claims 1-5 and 6-9 on prior art grounds, but as indicated in paragraph 8 of the official action, original claim 6 was directed patentable. The subject matter of claim 6 has been added to each of the independent claims, so it is believed that each of the independent claims patentably distinguish itself from the prior art. Claim 6 has been cancelled in view of the movement of its limitation into claim 1.

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Claim amendments

In addition to adding the subject matter of claim 6 to each independent claim, some of the dependent claims are amended to use consistent terminology ('panel member' as opposed to 'driven portion').

Also, the word "different" has been removed from before "action amount error detection value" to provide a better antecedent for "the action amount error detection value" later in each independent claim. In a similar vein, "obtained information" has been changed to "information obtained by the information obtaining device" to again help clarify the antecedent of the limitation even though the Examiner apparently found the original language sufficiently clear without requiring amendment thereof.

Withdrawal of the rejections and allowance of the claims are respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required or credit overpayment to deposit account no. 12-0415. In particular, if this response is not timely filed, then the Commissioner is authorized to treat this response as including a petition to extend the time period pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136 (a) requesting an extension of time of the number of months necessary to make this response timely filed and the petition fee due in connection therewith may be charged to deposit account no. 12-0415.

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Post Office with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on

March 2, 2007
(Date of Transmission)

Mary Ngo
(Name of Person Transmitting)
(Signature)

March 2, 2007
(Date)

Respectfully submitted,

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